



BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF GEORGIA

A PROCLAMATION

CLOSTRIDIUM DIFFICILE INFECTION AWARENESS MONTH

- WHEREAS: Clostridium difficile, also known as C. difficile or C. diff, is a bacterium that causes inflammation of the colon; and
- WHEREAS: According to the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, approximately 500,000 patients nationwide are diagnosed with Clostridium difficile and require treatment each year; and
- WHEREAS: Each year, nearly 29,000 individuals affected by Clostridium difficile die within 30 days of initial diagnosis. Of those, roughly 15,000 deaths are estimated to be directly attributable to Clostridium difficile infections; and
- WHEREAS: Clostridium difficile is the most common microbial cause of health care-associated infections in American hospitals. Instances of Clostridium difficile cost up to \$4.8 billion each year in excess health care costs for acute care facilities alone; and
- WHEREAS: One out of every five patients affected by Clostridium difficile experiences a recurrent infection. Further, an estimated one of every nine individuals over age 65 affected by a Clostridium difficile infection will die within 30 days of the diagnosis; and
- WHEREAS: Georgia's health care facilities employ dedicated professionals who work to improve health outcomes and promote patient and staff safety to prevent and minimize the occurrence of Clostridium difficile; and
- WHEREAS: Improved health practices, including proper hand-cleaning hygiene, can significantly reduce the risk of Clostridium difficile infections. Additionally, greater public awareness of Clostridium difficile and further research are necessary to expand treatment options and provide those affected with an improved quality of life; now
- THEREFORE: I, NATHAN DEAL, Governor of the State of Georgia, do hereby proclaim November 2018 as CLOSTRIDIUM DIFFICILE INFECTION AWARENESS MONTH in Georgia.

In witness thereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the Executive Department to be affixed this 22nd day of August in the year of our Lord two thousand eighteen.



Nathan Deal

GOVERNOR

ATTEST

Chris W. Riley

CHIEF OF STAFF